

MINUTES
OF THE
IOWA STATE PRESERVES ADVISORY BOARD
MEETING
JULY 23, 2013

HELD AT:
IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
WALLACE BUILDING 4W, DES MOINES, IA

For Office Use Only

Date Minutes Approved By SPAB: _____

Director's Signature: _____

Bruce Trautman
Deputy Director

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File Name: ADM 1-1-1

SPAB MINUTES

Sender's initials: _____

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MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the State Preserves Advisory Board (SPAB) was called to order by Wayne Phipps, SPAB Chairperson on 10:09 a.m. He then welcomed guests present and introductions were made.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Wayne Phipps, Chair
Thomas Putnam
Leesa McNeil
Kirk Larsen
Lynn Alex
Inger Lamb

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Bruce Trautman

DNR STAFF PRESENT

Aaron Brees
John Pearson
Karen Fynaardt
Diane Ford

GUEST / PUBLIC PRESENT

- Jerad Getter, Loess Hills Archaeological Interpretive Center , Glenwood
- Bill Van Deest, Loess Hills Archaeological Interpretive Center , Glenwood
- Rob Simmon, Loess Hills Archaeological Interpretive Center, Glenwood
- Kathy Gourley, State Historical Society, Des Moines
- Kelsey Knight, DNR Legal intern

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion – McNeil motioned to approve the agenda.

Seconded – Larsen

Decision – Approved by Unanimous Vote

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

2. MINUTES FROM APRIL 23, 2013

TABLED TO NEXT MEETING FOR APPROVAL
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Chairperson Phipps announced that he would abstain from discussion and voting on anything discussed on the Loess Hills Interpretive Center as he is involved as a board member for the Loess Hills Archaeological Interpretive Center board of directors.

Lynn Alex will also abstain because of her position with the Office of the State Archaeologist, which conducted field surveys and prepared a final report for archaeological findings regarding the proposed project.

3. GLENWOOD ARCHAEOLOGICAL STATE PRESERVE

At the April 23rd meeting, representatives of the Loess Hills Archaeological Interpretive Center presented a concept plan for constructing a proposed center on a portion of the Preserve. Two potential sites were described in the plan, one near the northwest corner, Scheme A, a second site near the center of the Preserve, Scheme B. The Board was asked to read written copies of the plan and make a decision at the July meeting.

A lengthy discussion followed, starting with a question posed of if construction of any building on a preserve is desirable, developing into consideration of balancing the contrasting perspectives of preservation, education, and public use. Concern was also raised about the need to successfully complete a project if started, highlighting the need for a business plan. Board members ultimately considered a motion to allow the project on conditional basis.

<p>Motion: Larsen made a motion to approve the following conditions:</p>
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<p>Construction not begin until full funding be in hand, pending approval of viable business plan with management of Interpretive Center and long term funding sources.</p>

<p>Construction to be monitored by an archeological team during ground disturbance.</p>

<p>Design shall not include trails as shown on potential plans for Scheme A and B.</p>
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<p>Need assessment of alternate sites off of Preserve.</p>
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<p>Seconded: McNeil</p>

<p>Decision: Unanimous by all voting members.</p>

APPROVED AS PRESENTED

4. ROCK ISLAND PRESERVE

A June 7, 2013 ruling of the Iowa Supreme Court in case #11-1979 identifies and issue with IDOT plans regarding Highway 100 and the Rock Island State and County Preserves. The appeal filed by the Sierra Club as summarized in the opinion:

“The petition alleges that IDOT has not complied with two environmental statutes found in Iowa Code sections 314.23(3) and 314.24 by locating the Highway 100 extension adjacent to the Rock Island State

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Preserve and through the Rock Island County Preserve. The Sierra Club, in its petition, asks the court to determine whether IDOT complied with these statutes.”

Aaron Brees described that the suit was dismissed because plaintiffs had not exhausted all administrative appeals prior to filing suit. Plaintiffs have option of pursuing the case through DOT administrative procedures.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

5. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Gitchie Manitou

Signs are ordered to post around the old shelter warning of the danger in the shelter area.

No reports from police on how many requests they are receiving of disturbance in the Preserve.

Joe Artz, an archaeologist with the firm contracted for Board-funded research at the Preserve this year to determine the authenticity of reputed mounds, notified staff that the mounds had indeed been identified as genuine. Details will be provided in a written report due on June 30, 2014.

Funding for Fiscal Year 2014 research and inventory projects

Funding for all \$31,000 in the projects was approved by Conservation and Recreation Division by Administrator Chuck Corell.

Added to the discussion not on the agenda:

Spirit Knoll

Everything is on track for ownership for recording and legal description.

A dedication ceremony is being considered for 2014 during the week of Prairie Preservation Week.

Archeological review for the parking lot is needed before any dedication.

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

NEXT MEETING:

October 22, Iowa City

January 28, 10:00 a.m., Des Moines Wallace Bldg.

ADJOURNMENT

*Motion was made by McNeil to adjourn the meeting. Unanimous vote.
Approved by Unanimous Vote. With no further business to come before the Iowa State Preserves Advisory Board, Chairperson Wayne Phipps adjourned the meeting on July 23, 2013, at 12:12 pm.*

APPROVED – MEETING ADJOURNED

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